

**PETITION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2254 FOR WRIT OF
HABEAS CORPUS BY A PERSON IN STATE CUSTODY**

United States District Court		District: <u>Cleveland County</u>
Name (under which you were convicted): <u>Sebastian Shepherd</u>		Docket or Case No.: <u>cf-2012-1638</u>
Place of Confinement: <u>OK state pen</u> <u>P.O. Box 97</u> <u>McAlester, OK, 74502</u>		Prisoner No.: <u>#649035</u>
Petitioner (include the name under which you were convicted) <u>Sebastian Shepherd</u>		Respondent (authorized person having custody of petitioner) <u>v. State of Oklahoma</u>
The Attorney General of the State of: <u>Oklahoma</u>		

FILED

APR 13 2017

PETITION

CARMELITA REEDER SHINN, CLERK
U.S. DIST. COURT, WESTERN DIST. OKLA.
BY AC, DEPUTY

1. (a) Name and location of court that entered the judgment of conviction you are challenging:

Cleveland County District Court of Oklahoma

- (b) Criminal docket or case number (if you know): cf-2012-1638

2. (a) Date of the judgment of conviction (if you know): ~~11-17-14~~ 9-18-14

- (b) Date of sentencing: 11-17-14

3. Length of sentence: life without parole, 15 yrs, 15 yrs, 20 yrs

4. In this case, were you convicted on more than one count or of more than one crime? ☒ Yes ☐ No

5. Identify all crimes of which you were convicted and sentenced in this case: First degree Murder: LWOP,
First degree Burglary: 20 years, Kidnapping: 15 years,
Kidnapping: 15 years

6. (a) What was your plea? (Check one)

☒ (1) Not guilty ☐ (3) Nolo contendere (no contest)
☐ (2) Guilty ☐ (4) Insanity plea

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(b) If you entered a guilty plea to one count or charge and a not guilty plea to another count or charge, what did you plead guilty to and what did you plead not guilty to? _____

(c) If you went to trial, what kind of trial did you have? (Check one)

☒ Jury ☐ Judge only

7. Did you testify at a pretrial hearing, trial, or a post-trial hearing?

☐ Yes ☒ No

8. Did you appeal from the judgment of conviction?

☒ Yes ☐ No

9. If you did appeal, answer the following:

(a) Name of court: court of criminal appeals of the state of oklahoma

(b) Docket or case number (if you know): F-2014-1039

(c) Result: upheld my convictions

(d) Date of result (if you know): _____

(e) Citation to the case (if you know): _____

(f) Grounds raised: 8 grounds 1: Failed to present sufficient evidence. ground 2: trial court abused its discretion by admitting inadmissible evidence. ground 3: prosecutorial misconduct. Ground 4: The trial courts failure to declare a mistrial. ground 5: Failure of trial judge to be impartial. Grounds 6: instructional error. Ground 7: ineffective assistance of council. Ground 8: the cumulative effect of all the errors

(g) Did you seek further review by a higher state court? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, answer the following:

(1) Name of court: _____

(2) Docket or case number (if you know): _____

(3) Result: _____

(4) Date of result (if you know): _____

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(5) Citation to the case (if you know): _____

(6) Grounds raised: _____

(h) Did you file a petition for certiorari in the United States Supreme Court?

☐ Yes☒ No

If yes, answer the following:

(1) Docket or case number (if you know): _____

(2) Result: _____

(3) Date of result (if you know): _____

(4) Citation to the case (if you know): _____

10. Other than the direct appeals listed above, have you previously filed any other petitions, applications, or motions concerning this judgment of conviction in any state court? ☐ Yes ☒ No

11. If your answer to Question 10 was "Yes," give the following information:

(a) (1) Name of court: _____

(2) Docket or case number (if you know): _____

(3) Date of filing (if you know): _____

(4) Nature of the proceeding: _____

(5) Grounds raised: _____

(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your petition, application, or motion?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(7) Result: _____

(8) Date of result (if you know): _____

(b) If you filed any second petition, application, or motion, give the same information:

- (1) Name of court: _____
- (2) Docket or case number (if you know): _____
- (3) Date of filing (if you know): _____
- (4) Nature of the proceeding: _____
- (5) Grounds raised: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your petition, application, or motion?

☐ Yes ☒ No

- (7) Result: _____
- (8) Date of result (if you know): _____

(c) If you filed any third petition, application, or motion, give the same information:

- (1) Name of court: _____
- (2) Docket or case number (if you know): _____
- (3) Date of filing (if you know): _____
- (4) Nature of the proceeding: _____
- (5) Grounds raised: _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

(6) Did you receive a hearing where evidence was given on your petition, application, or motion?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(7) Result: _____

(8) Date of result (if you know): _____

(d) Did you appeal to the highest state court having jurisdiction over the action taken on your petition, application, or motion?

(1) First petition: ☒ Yes ☐ No

(2) Second petition: ☐ Yes ☐ No

(3) Third petition: ☐ Yes ☐ No

(e) If you did not appeal to the highest state court having jurisdiction, explain why you did not:

12. For this petition, state every ground on which you claim that you are being held in violation of the Constitution, laws, or treaties of the United States. Attach additional pages if you have more than four grounds. State the facts supporting each ground.

CAUTION: To proceed in the federal court, you must ordinarily first exhaust (use up) your available state-court remedies on each ground on which you request action by the federal court. Also, if you fail to set forth all the grounds in this petition, you may be barred from presenting additional grounds at a later date.

GROUND ONE: The state failed to present sufficient evidence on all 4 counts which I am charged with.

(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

The state failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that I committed these crimes because they have nothing to prove I was in or around the residence in which the crime occurred. They used the testimony of Elanissa Miller who says I admitted to her I had done these crimes. But there was no independent evidence to corroborate the alleged inculpatory admission and there is inconsistencies in her story. Then a big part of the state's case was the alleged cell phone calls between co-defendants, but ADA Coswell says "we don't know and can't prove of course by cell phone records that Shepherd was in the area at the time." continues on

(b) If you did not exhaust your state remedies on Ground One, explain why:

Direct appeal is the only state remedy I know

Attached
Page
#1

(c) Direct Appeal of Ground One:(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue? ☒ Yes ☐ No(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why: _____

_____**(d) Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

(1) Did you raise this issue through a post-conviction motion or petition for habeas corpus in a state trial court?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(2) If your answer to Question (d)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition: _____

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

_____(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No(5) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," did you raise this issue in the appeal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(6) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

_____(7) If your answer to Question (d)(4) or Question (d)(5) is "No," explain why you did not raise this issue:

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(e) **Other Remedies:** Describe any other procedures (such as habeas corpus, administrative remedies, etc.) that you have used to exhaust your state remedies on Ground One: direct appeal

GROUND TWO: The trial court abused its discretion by admitting inadmissible evidence, violating my rights to due process and fair trial violating my sixth and fourteenth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.

(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

Inadmissible Good character evidence of the decedent and his children, prosecutors commented on and elicited testimony about the alleged good character of the decedent and his children. In opening, ADA Miller explained that the decedent "got up and went to work to a job that he had had for over 20 years" and that "he met Hawks, and found that she was a little down on her luck she needed help, he let her and her children move into his home" (Tr. III 758-759).

(b) If you did not exhaust your state remedies on Ground Two, explain why: direct appeal is the only state remedy I know.

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(c) **Direct Appeal of Ground Two:**

(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue? ☒ Yes ☐ No

(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:

(d) **Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

(1) Did you raise this issue through a post-conviction motion or petition for habeas corpus in a state trial court?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(2) If your answer to Question (d)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition:

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed:

Docket or case number (if you know):

Date of the court's decision:

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(5) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," did you raise this issue in the appeal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(6) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

(7) If your answer to Question (d)(4) or Question (d)(5) is "No," explain why you did not raise this issue:

(e) **Other Remedies:** Describe any other procedures (such as habeas corpus, administrative remedies, etc.) that you have used to exhaust your state remedies on Ground Two: direct appeal.

GROUND THREE: prosecutorial misconduct deprived me of my Rights to Due process and a fair trial.

(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

The District attorney appealed to the jurors emotions, During opening arguments ADA miller Referred to Z.S., who was 14 years old at the time of the incident, as a "little boy", and to B.S., who was 16 years old at the time of the incident, as a "little girl". [Tr. III 757, 764, 766, 768]. There was No Reason to Refer to them as little boy and little girl other than to appeal to the jurors emotions and was plain error.

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(b) If you did not exhaust your state remedies on Ground Three, explain why: direct appeal is
the only ~~direct~~ state remedy I know.

(c) Direct Appeal of Ground Three:

(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue? ☒ Yes ☐ No

(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why: _____

(d) Post-Conviction Proceedings:

(1) Did you raise this issue through a post-conviction motion or petition for habeas corpus in a state trial court?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(2) If your answer to Question (d)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition: _____

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(5) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," did you raise this issue in the appeal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(6) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

(7) If your answer to Question (d)(4) or Question (d)(5) is "No," explain why you did not raise this issue:

(e) **Other Remedies:** Describe any other procedures (such as habeas corpus, administrative remedies, etc.) that you have used to exhaust your state remedies on Ground Three: direct appeal

GROUND FOUR: The trial court's failure to declare a mistrial constitutes an Abuse of discretion.

(a) Supporting facts (Do not argue or cite law. Just state the specific facts that support your claim.):

IN this case, ADA Caswell questioned Samuel Allen about videos created by the surveillance equipment affixed to his house, which is located on a corner lot just north of the decedent's home. (M.V. 1799-1800, 1801). One of the videos showed footage at 11:00 p.m. on August 27th, 2017, of a woman and two (2) children sitting on or standing near the curb at the corner of Allen's yard and a male exiting a nearby car to greet them. (states exhibit 230).

(b) If you did not exhaust your state remedies on Ground Four, explain why:

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(c) **Direct Appeal of Ground Four:**

(1) If you appealed from the judgment of conviction, did you raise this issue?

☒ Yes ☐ No

(2) If you did not raise this issue in your direct appeal, explain why:

(d) **Post-Conviction Proceedings:**

(1) Did you raise this issue through a post-conviction motion or petition for habeas corpus in a state trial court?

☐ Yes ☒ No

(2) If your answer to Question (d)(1) is "Yes," state:

Type of motion or petition:

Name and location of the court where the motion or petition was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

(3) Did you receive a hearing on your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(4) Did you appeal from the denial of your motion or petition? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(5) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," did you raise this issue in the appeal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

(6) If your answer to Question (d)(4) is "Yes," state:

Name and location of the court where the appeal was filed: _____

Docket or case number (if you know): _____

Date of the court's decision: _____

Result (attach a copy of the court's opinion or order, if available): _____

(7) If your answer to Question (d)(4) or Question (d)(5) is "No," explain why you did not raise this issue:

(e) **Other Remedies:** Describe any other procedures (such as habeas corpus, administrative remedies, etc.) that you

have used to exhaust your state remedies on Ground Four: Direct appeal is the
only state remedy that I knew.

13. Please answer these additional questions about the petition you are filing:

- (a) Have all grounds for relief that you have raised in this petition been presented to the highest state court having jurisdiction? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If your answer is "No," state which grounds have not been so presented and give your reason(s) for not presenting them:

- (b) Is there any ground in this petition that has not been presented in some state or federal court? If so, which ground or grounds have not been presented, and state your reasons for not presenting them:

14. Have you previously filed any type of petition, application, or motion in a federal court regarding the conviction that you challenge in this petition? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of proceeding, the issues raised, the date of the court's decision, and the result for each petition, application, or motion filed. Attach a copy of any court opinion or order, if available.

15. Do you have any petition or appeal now pending (filed and not decided yet) in any court, either state or federal, for the judgment you are challenging? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes," state the name and location of the court, the docket or case number, the type of proceeding, and the issues raised.

16. Give the name and address, if you know, of each attorney who represented you in the following stages of the judgment you are challenging:

(a) At preliminary hearing: David Smith

(b) At arraignment and plea: David Smith

(c) At trial: David Smith, Johnny Lombardi

(d) At sentencing: David Smith

(e) On appeal: Raymond Denecke

P.O. Box 986, Norman, OK, 73070

(f) In any post-conviction proceeding: _____

(g) On appeal from any ruling against you in a post-conviction proceeding: _____

17. Do you have any future sentence to serve after you complete the sentence for the judgment that you are challenging? ☐ Yes ☒ No

(a) If so, give name and location of court that imposed the other sentence you will serve in the future: _____

(b) Give the date the other sentence was imposed: _____

(c) Give the length of the other sentence: _____

(d) Have you filed, or do you plan to file, any petition that challenges the judgment or sentence to be served in the future? ☐ Yes ☐ No

18. TIMELINESS OF PETITION: If your judgment of conviction became final over one year ago, you must explain why the one-year statute of limitations as contained in 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d) does not bar your petition.*

* The Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996 ("AEDPA") as contained in 28 U.S.C. § 2244(d) provides in part that:

- (1) A one-year period of limitation shall apply to an application for a writ of habeas corpus by a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court. The limitation period shall run from the latest of -
- (A) the date on which the judgment became final by the conclusion of direct review or the expiration of the time for seeking such review;
 - (B) the date on which the impediment to filing an application created by State action in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States is removed, if the applicant was prevented from filing by such state action;
 - (C) the date on which the constitutional right asserted was initially recognized by the Supreme Court, if the right has been newly recognized by the Supreme Court and made retroactively applicable to cases on collateral review; or
 - (D) the date on which the factual predicate of the claim or claims presented could have been discovered through the exercise of due diligence.

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- (2) The time during which a properly filed application for State post-conviction or other collateral review with respect to the pertinent judgment or claim is pending shall not be counted toward any period of limitation under this subsection.

Therefore, petitioner asks that the Court grant the following relief: Repr. mand for a evidentiary hearing, or a new trial and or sentence modification.

or any other relief to which petitioner may be entitled.

Signature of Attorney (if any)

I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus was placed in the prison mailing system on 4-14-17 (month, date, year).

Executed (signed) on 3-21-17 (date).

Sebastian Shepherd

Signature of Petitioner

If the person signing is not petitioner, state relationship to petitioner and explain why petitioner is not signing this petition.

